

920522-905338

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In the application of :** Wilmert De Bosscher  
**Serial No. :** 09/720,744  
**Filed :** June 11, 2001  
**For :** Vacuum tight coupling for tube sections  
**Examiner :** Dunwoody, Aaron M.  
**Art Unit :** 3679  
**Customer number :** 23644

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED AUGUST 25, 2006**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

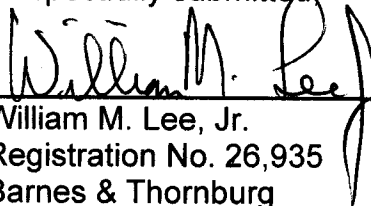
Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement dated August 25, 2006, the Applicants elect Group III, comprising Claims 72-80.

Further examination of the application based upon this election is awaited.

September 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted

  
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